

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-15 and add the following new claims 16-27 as follows:

16. (New): An information playback apparatus for playing back contents formed by including one or more data sets having a plurality of files for storing presentation data and having playback control data for managing contents of each of said files, said information playback apparatus comprising:

signal processing means for performing a playback of said presentation data in accordance with control contents of said playback control data;

abnormality detecting means for detecting whether there is an abnormality in said playback control data; and

control means for, when said signal processing means is playing back said presentation data and once said abnormality detecting means detects an abnormality in said playback control data, detecting a data set to which the playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and causing the signal processing means to perform a playback from the presentation data stored in an initial file belonging to the detected data set, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data set.

17. (New): An information playback apparatus for playing back contents formed by including one or more data sets having a plurality of files and first playback control data for managing contents of each of said files, and including one or more data units in which said files have presentation data and second playback control data for

managing contents of said presentation data, said information playback apparatus comprising:

signal processing means for performing a playback of said presentation data in accordance with control contents of said first and second playback control data;

abnormality detecting means for detecting whether there is an abnormality in said first and second playback control data; and

control means for, when said signal processing means is playing back said presentation data and once said abnormality detecting means detects an abnormality in said first playback control data, detecting a data set to which the first playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and causing the signal processing means to perform a playback from the presentation data stored in an initial file belonging to the detected data set, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data set,

and for, when said signal processing means is playing back said presentation data and once said abnormality detecting means detects an abnormality in said second playback control data, detecting a data unit to which the second playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and causing the signal processing means to continue the playback from the presentation data belonging to the detected data unit, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data unit.

18. (New):       The information playback apparatus according to claim 16 or 17, wherein said contents are recorded in a storage medium.

19. (New): The information playback apparatus according to claim 16 or 17, wherein said contents are supplied through transmission media.

20. (New): An information playback method for playing back contents formed by including one or more data sets having a plurality of files for storing presentation data and having playback control data for managing contents of each of said files, said information playback method comprising:

a signal processing step for performing a playback of said presentation data in accordance with control contents of said playback control data;

an abnormality detecting step for detecting whether there is an abnormality in the playback control data; and

a control step for, when in said signal processing step said presentation data is being played back and once said abnormality detecting step detects an abnormality in said playback control data, detecting a data set to which the playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and using the signal processing step to play back the presentation data stored in an initial file belonging to the detected data set, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data set.

21. (New): An information playback method for playing back contents formed by including one or more data sets having a plurality of files and first playback control data for managing contents of each of said files, and including one or more data units in which said files have presentation data and second playback control data for managing contents of said presentation data, said information playback method comprising:

a signal processing step for performing a playback of said presentation data in accordance with control contents of said first and second playback control data;

an abnormality detecting step for detecting whether there is an abnormality in said first and second playback control data; and

a control step for, when in said signal processing step said presentation data is being played back and once said abnormality detecting step detects an abnormality in said first playback control data, detecting a data set to which the first playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and performing in said signal processing step a playback of the presentation data stored in an initial file belonging to the detected data set, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data set,

and for, when in said signal processing step said presentation data is being played back and once said abnormality detecting step detects an abnormality in said second playback control data, detecting a data unit to which the second playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and continuing in the signal processing step the playback from the presentation data belonging to the detected data unit, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data unit.

22. (New): The information playback method according to claim 20 or 21, wherein said contents are recorded in a storage medium.

23. (New): The information playback method according to claim 20 or 21, wherein said contents are supplied through transmission media.

24. (New): A program for causing a computer to play back contents formed by including one or more data sets having a plurality of files for storing presentation data and having playback control data for managing contents of each of said files, said program comprising:

a signal processing step for causing said computer to play back said presentation data in accordance with control contents of said playback control data;

an abnormality detecting step for causing the computer to detect whether there is an abnormality in the playback control data; and

a control step for, when said computer uses said signal processing step to play back said presentation data and once said abnormality detecting step detects an abnormality in said playback control data, detecting a data set to which the playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and using the signal processing step to play back the presentation data stored in an initial file belonging to the detected data set, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data set.

25. (New): A program for causing a computer to play back contents formed by including one or more data sets having a plurality of files and first playback control data for managing contents of each of said files, and including one or more data units in which said files have presentation data and second playback control data for managing contents of said presentation data, said program comprising:

a signal processing step for causing said computer to play back said presentation data in accordance with control contents of said first and second playback control data;

an abnormality detecting step for causing said computer to detect whether there

is an abnormality in said first and second playback control data; and

a control step for, when said computer uses said signal processing step to play back said presentation data and once said abnormality detecting step detects an abnormality in said first playback control data, detecting a data set to which the first playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and using said signal processing step to play back the presentation data stored in an initial file belonging to the detected data set, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data set,

and for, when said computer uses said signal processing step to play back said presentation data and once said abnormality detecting step detects an abnormality in said second playback control data, detecting a data unit to which the second playback control data containing said abnormality belongs, and using the signal processing step to continue the playback of the presentation data belonging to the detected data unit, without following said playback control data belonging to the detected data unit.

26. (New): The program according to claim 24 or 25, wherein said contents are recorded in a storage medium subjected to information playback in said computer.

27. (New): The program according to claim 24 or 25, wherein said contents are supplied to said computer through transmission media.